

REMARKS

Claim Status/Support For Claim Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 2-38 have been canceled. Claims 39-46 have been added. Applicants hereby authorize Deposit Account No. 50-1803 to be charged in the amount of \$156.00 for the examination of eight new claims and two extra new independent claims over the number of total claims previously paid for. Claims 1 and 39-46 are pending in the instant application.

No new matter has been added by the addition of new claims 39-46. The above additions to the claims find basis in the original disclosure at page 25, line 16 to page 26, line 22. The method of new claim 39 is described in detail at pages 37-47. Page 48, lines 5-9 refers to use of various types of samples and page 39, lines 4-7 refers to different mass spectrometric techniques. Page 47, line 5 refers to practicing the claimed methods with a human patient. Pages 47-48 describe kits contemplated for use with the claimed methods. Lines 3-4 on page 48 refer particularly to the immobilizing on solid supports and labeling of components of the contemplated kits. It is clear from these specific recitations and from the description of methods utilized that the methods and types of kits recited in the newly added claims (39-46) were fully contemplated by the inventors at the time of filing and were enabled by virtue of

the disclosure as originally filed.

The amendments to the claims and specification limiting the marker sequences to specific amino acid residues are made for the purpose of clarification only. The claims as herein amended limit the marker sequence to amino acid residues 2-18 of SEQ ID NO:1. The first and last amino acid residues of SEQ ID NOS:1-3 are added during experimentation for the purpose of protein purification but are not part of the sequences as identified in a sample (body fluid or tissue). The first and last amino acid residues of SEQ ID NOS:1-3 were shown in parentheses in the original disclosure at page 46 and in the claims as originally filed and are currently shown in the Sequence Listing. Thus, no new matter is added.

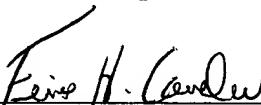
Declaration Under 37 CFR 1.132

A declaration under 37 CFR 1.132 is filed concurrently herewith in order to provide evidence of the absence of the 1873 dalton biopolymer marker(amino acid residues 2-18 of SEQ ID NO:1) in normal human sera.

Conclusion

Now that applicants have fully responded to the Office Action mailed on February 5, 2003, an examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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